

Agenda Date: 2/1/06 Agenda Item: 2F

# State of New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.ni.us

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROVISION OF )
RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES )
FROM NON-UTILITY GENERATORS AND )
THE BOARD'S RENEWABLE ENERGY )
PORTFOLIO STANDARD AS IT PERTAINS)
TO BASIC GENERATION SERVICE )
SUPPLIERS

**ENERGY** 

**DECISION AND ORDER** 

**DOCKET NO. E005121063** 

(Service List Attached)

# BY THE BOARD1

By Order dated April 20, 2005, the Board determined that with respect to the existing Board-approved Power Purchase Agreements between the State's Electric Distribution Companies ("EDCs") and various non-utility generators ("NUGs"), the renewable attributes associated therewith belong to the purchasing EDCs for the benefit of the EDCs' customers for the duration of those contracts. <a href="I/M/O">I/M/O</a> the Ownership of Renewable Energy Certificates Under the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, as it pertains to Non-Utility Generators and the Board's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards, BPU. Docket No. EO04080879 ("April 20, 2005 Order"). The Board's April 20, 2005 Order is currently under appeal.<sup>2</sup>

The 2006 Auction for Basic Generation Service ("BGS") electric supply is scheduled to begin on February 3, 2006. Currently, consistent with the April 20, 2005 Order, and as described in the utility-specific addenda attached to their Board-approved BGS compliance filings, the EDCs allocate NUG RECs among winning suppliers in the BGS Auction for the benefit of the EDCs' BGS customers. The within Order is being issued to provide clarification to bidders in the 2006 BGS Auction with respect to their obligations under the Board's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards N.J.A.C. 14:4-8 et seq. ("RPS") in order to help them appropriately price their bids. The Board HEREBY CLARIFIES that for RPS compliance purposes, winning bidders in the 2006 BGS Auction, through the EDCs, will be credited with an equivalent level of NUG RECs as would be available to them through the EDCs, assuming the EDCs had an unappealable right to such RECs. NUG RECs that are currently available to EDCs, which are in excess of the levels required for RPS compliance by the EDCs' respective suppliers, are not affected by this clarification.

A related issue arises because certain NUGs have not properly registered their output with the currently operational PJM Interconnection - Environmental Information Systems Generator Attributes Tracking System ("PJM-EIS GATS"). PJM-EIS GATS became operational on

Commissioner Connie O. Hughes abstained from voting on this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Appellate Docket Nos. A-5183-04T5, A-5189-04T5 &A-5191-04T5.; Federal District Court Civil Action No. 05-2844 (KSH)(PS)

September 12, 2005. Preliminary indications are that some NUGs either have not registered with the PJM-EIS GATS system, or have done so but have not designated their output as under contract with a New Jersey EDC. The Board has designated PJM-EIS GATS as the clearinghouse for Class I and Class II RECs. To the extent that NUGs either fail to register with PJ-EIS GATS or fail to designate their output to the appropriate EDC, PJM-EIS GATS would not be able to allocate these attributes to the appropriate EDC, and thereby to BGS suppliers.

Accordingly, consistent with the April 20, 2005 Order, and in order to provide customers with the lowest reasonable electric supply costs and maintain an efficient RPS reporting process, the Board believes that customers should continue to receive the benefits of the NUG RECs to which this Board has found that they are entitled. Thus, upon proper documentation, the EDCs will receive a reduction in their RPS obligation for NUG RECs not properly registered with PJM-EIS GATS.

Therefore, the Board <u>DIRECTS</u> that either as the direct result of NUG RECs being available through the EDCs or as an administrative credit to the EDCs, an equivalent level of NUG RECS as would be available to suppliers, through the EDCs, assuming the EDCs have definitively determined rights to such RECs and assuming the proper registration of such RECs with PJM-EIS GATS be recognized for current BGS suppliers and for winning bidders in the 2006 BGS Auction, for the term of their contract, The Board <u>FURTHER DIRECTS</u> that the EDCs receive a reduction in their RPS obligation equal to the level of NUG RECs not registered or improperly registered with PJM-EIS GATS, subject to proper supporting documentation.

DATED: 2/3/06

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F. BUTLER

COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

ISTLIZZE Utilities

SECRETARY

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